(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(d) the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) No, Sir. All airports and Civil Enclaves where scheduled flights are being operated have all the basic amenities.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Compensation to the families of deceased in Charkhi-Dadri air crash

†3655. SHRI B.P. SINGHAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any announcement was made by Government to pay Rupees five lakhs each to all the passengers killed in Charkhi-Dadri air crash of 12th November, 1996;

(b) whether this compensation amount has since been paid;

(c) the name of the persons found guilty during the course of investigation;

(d) whether this compensation is not payable by these two airlines since Boeing 747 of Saudi Arab and I.C. 76 aircraft of Kazhakistan were involved in this crash;

(e) if so, whether this amount has been recovered by Government from the Government of Saudi Arab and Kazhakistan; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) As per Carriage by Air Act, 1972, in such cases, the compensation is paid by the respective airlines. In the instant case also, the compensation was actually paid by the Saudi Airlines and Kazak Airways.

(c) The matter was investigated by a Court of Inquiry which found that the cause of the collision was the unauthorised descending by the Kazak aircraft to Flight Level 140 and failure to maintain the assigned Flight Level.

(d) to (f) Since the compensation was paid by the respective airlines and not by the Government of India, the question of any recovery from the airlines does not arise.

Promotion of foreign trade

3656. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state the details of steps taken by Government to promote the Indo-Russia, Indo-Pak, Indo-US, Indo-China trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): The Agreement on Trade and Economic Cooperation between India and Russian Federation signed on May 4, 1992, provides the basic framework for Indo-Russian trade and economic cooperation. The utilisation of the Russian rupee debt fund is governed by the Arrangement between the Bank For Foreign Economic Affairs of the Russian Federation and the Reserve Bank of India for implementing the provisions agreed between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of India. As per this arrangement, the funds related to the payment of Russian rupee debt are to be utilized for purchase of goods and services from India. India's exports to Russia are moving largely on debt repayment track as well as in a small measure, under hard currency.